

COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS

ORDINANCE NO. 371

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING A PARKS, TRAILS AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN ELEMENT OF THE CITY'S GENERAL PLAN

WHEREAS, the "Municipal Land Use, Development, and Management Act," UTAH CODE ANN. §10-9a-101 *et seq.*, as amended (the "*Act*"), provides that each municipality shall prepare and adopt a comprehensive, long-range general plan; and

WHEREAS, the Act requires the municipality's planning commission to prepare the general plan and submit it to the municipality's legislative body; and

WHEREAS, the Act also provides certain procedures for the municipality's legislative body to adopt and amend the general plan; and

WHEREAS, on 26 July 2005, following full compliance with the procedures for formulation, public hearing and recommendation specified in UTAH CODE ANN. §§10-9a-401 through -404, the city council (the "*Council*") of the city of Cottonwood Heights (the "*City*") enacted its Ordinance No. 24 adopting a general plan (with all previous amendments, the "*General Plan*") for the City; and

WHEREAS, as authorized by statute, the General Plan includes various topical "elements" or divisions; and

WHEREAS, the City's planning staff and its planning commission (the "*Planning Commission*") have formulated a master plan for parks, trails and open space in the City (the "*Master Plan*") to serve as a standalone comprehensive document that effectuates and fulfills various goals and objectives of the General Plan by adopting policies to help guide the future development and implementation of parks, trails and open space elements and improvements in the City; and

WHEREAS, following all required notices, one or more public hearings were held before the Planning Commission concerning the proposed Master Plan, where citizens were given the opportunity to provide written or oral comment concerning the Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, a photocopy of the Master Plan is attached hereto and is incorporated herein by this reference; and

WHEREAS, following the public hearing(s), the Planning Commission voted to recommend that the Council approve the Master Plan, and thereafter recommended that the Council approve and adopt the Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, thereafter, the Council solicited and received additional public comment

ATTEST:

COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS CITY COUNCIL

By:


Paula Melgar, Recorder

By:


Michael J. Peterson, Mayor



VOTING:

Michael J. Peterson

Yea ☒ Nay ☐

Douglas Petersen

Yea ☒ Nay ☐

J. Scott Bracken

Yea ☒ Nay ☐

Tali C. Bruce

Yea ☐ Nay ☐ *excused*

Christine Watson Mikell

Yea ☐ Nay ☐ *excused*

DEPOSITED in the Recorder's office this 16th day of November 2021.

POSTED this 17 day of November 2021.



Cottonwood Heights PARKS, TRAILS, & OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN



Acknowledgements

Elected Officials

- Michael J. Peterson, Mayor
- Douglas Peterson, Council Member, District 1
- Scott Bracken, Council Member, District 2
- Tali Bruce, Council Member, District 3
- Christine Mikell, Council Member, District 4

Planning Commission

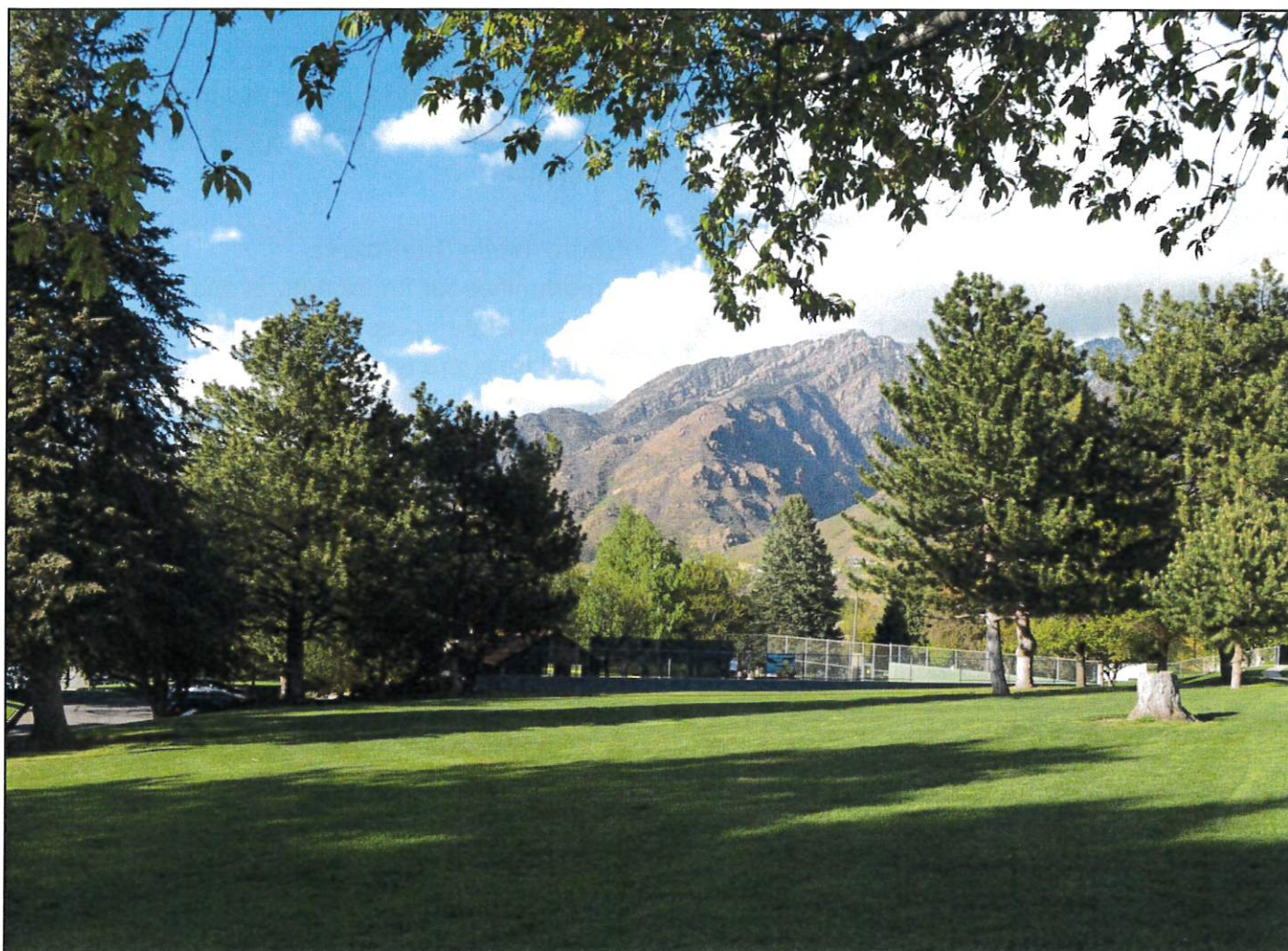
- Christine Coutts, Chair
- Jesse Allen, Vice-Chair
- Craig Bevan
- Jessica Chappell
- Graig Griffin
- Dan Mills
- Doug Rhodes
- Sue Ryser
- Bob Wilde
- Lucy Anderson
- Jonathan Ebbeler

Parks, Trails, and Open Space Committee

- Jennifer Follstad Shah, Chair
- Sarah Ricketts, Vice-Chair
- Ronna Cohen
- Erin Davis
- Matthew Dominesey
- Melissa Fields
- Greg Hilbig
- Ben Hill
- Bruce Jorgensen
- Roger Kehr
- Paula McFarland
- Dave McFerren
- Michael Menssen
- Kristy Morrison
- Chris Owens
- Greg Reid

Planning Team

- Tim Tingey, City Manager
- Mike Johnson, Community and Economic Development Director
- Matthew Taylor, Senior Planner
- Andrew Hulka, Senior Planner
- Samantha DeSeelhorst, Associate Planner & Sustainability Analyst
- Gabrielle Regenhardt, Assistant Planner
- Melissa Blue, GIS Specialist
- Ben Wheeler, Planning Intern
- Michael Makris, Planning Intern
- Maverick Yeh, Intern



Legal Authority of the Plan

Municipalities are required to prepare a General Plan for the City that the Planning Commission recommends to the City Council for approval. The Planning Commission is to recommend land use elements in that plan that designate “the proposed extent, general distribution, and location of land for... recreation, open space, and other categories of public and private uses of land” as well as other land uses. Additionally, general plans are required to provide for a transportation element that includes “active transportation facilities and other modes of transportation as the planning commission considers appropriate.” (see UCA 10-9a-403)

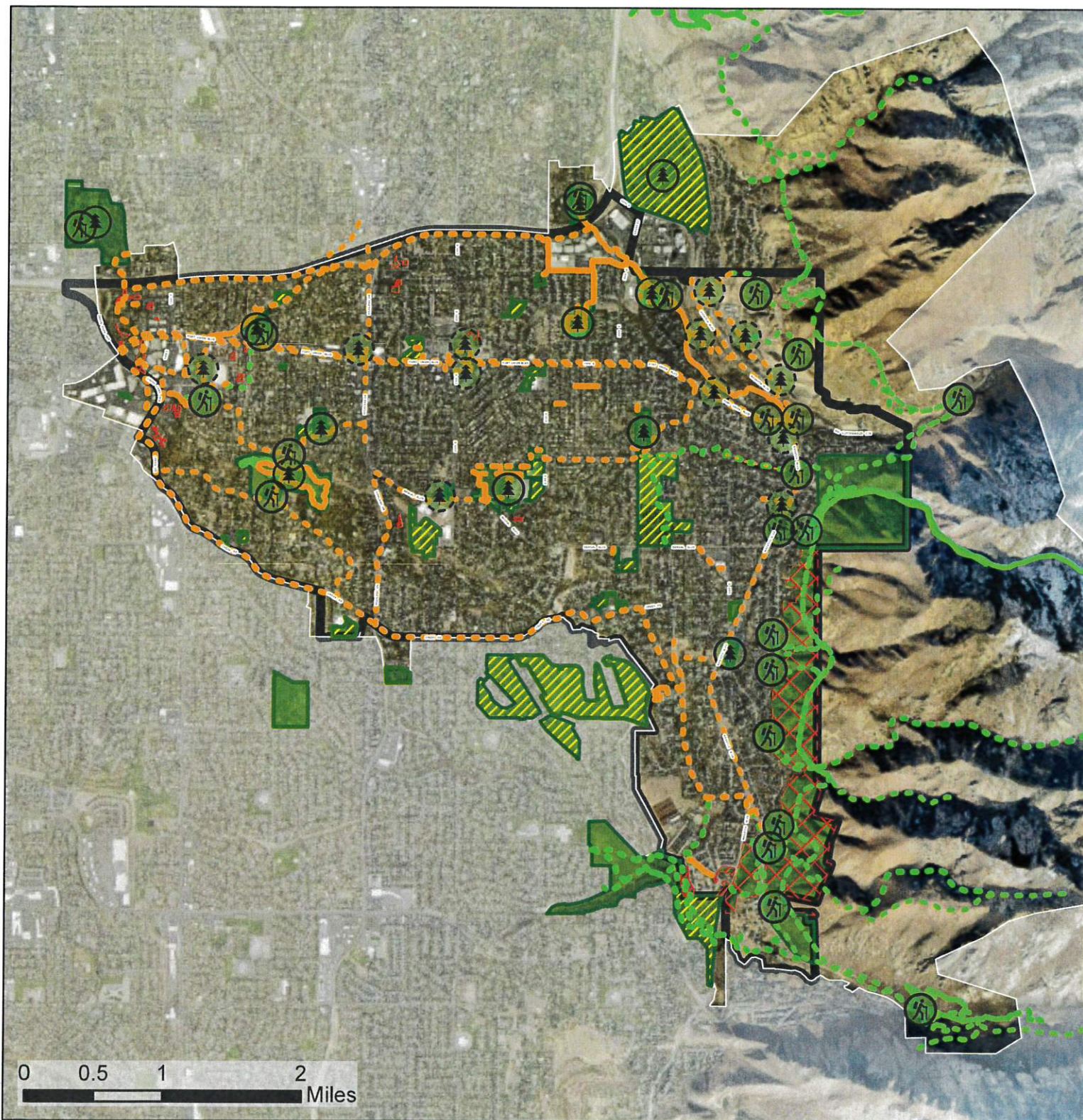
“The City Council may adopt, reject, or make any revisions to the proposed general plan or

amendment that it considers appropriate.” (see UCA 10-9a-404)

This Parks, Open Space, Trails and Urban Forest Master Plan serves as a replacement to the Open Space and Parks element of the General Plan of Cottonwood Heights. This plan is an advisory guide for land use decisions (see UCA 10-9a-405).

“After the City Council has adopted a general plan, no street, park, or other public way, ground, place, or space, no publicly owned building or structure, and no public utility, whether publicly or privately owned, may be constructed or authorized until and unless it conforms to the current general plan.” (see UCA 10-9a-406)

COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS OPEN SPACE



- Map Legend -

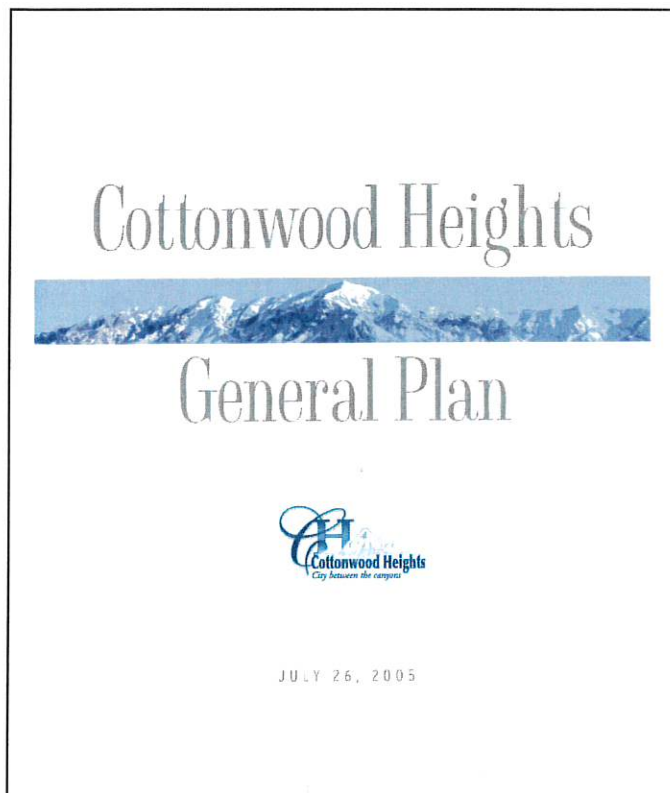
Existing Trailhead Points	Planned Open Space Points	Natural Trails	Private, Proposed
Existing Open Space Points	Urban Trails	Existing	Public, Existing
Planned Trailhead Points	Existing	Proposed	Semi-Public, Existing
	Potential	Existing Open Space	Planning areas
	Proposed	Type, Status	City Boundary
		Private, Existing	



Existing Long-Range Plans

Existing city, county, and regional long-range plans provide a strong foundation of policies and recommendations related to the goals of this plan. One of the objectives of this plan is to consolidate existing and proposed open space goals and recommendations into one cohesive plan.

Cottonwood Heights General Plan (2005)



Cottonwood Heights incorporated as a city on January 14, 2005. The General Plan was written and adopted shortly thereafter, following collaboration from the Mayor, City Council, Planning Commission, staff, and planning consultants. Its purpose is to provide a comprehensive guide for development in Cottonwood Heights. The General Plan illustrates a common vision for residents, businesses, property owners, city staff, and officials in Cottonwood Heights. It provides guidance on decisions relating to transportation, land uses, socioeconomics, annexation, parks and open space, urban trails, and the natural environment.

Key Elements:

- Preserve and protect natural open spaces and view corridors
- Maintain high quality parks and recreation facilities and programs
- Provide equally distributed parks and open space amenities throughout the City
- Develop a network of urban trails that provides alternative transportation opportunities
- Develop safe pedestrian routes to schools and other facilities
- Collaborate with other agencies to develop solutions to trails on state highways
- Minimize risks to life and property associated with flooding, slope stability, seismic activity, unstable soil, and wildfire
- Protect environmental resources such as water quality, wildlife habitat, scenic quality, hillsides, ridgelines, vegetation, and wetlands

Salt Lake County Parks and Rec Facilities Master Plan (2015)



The SLC Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan is a guiding document for developing parks, trails, open space, and recreation facilities within Salt Lake County. With unprecedented growth, the demand for quality recreation services is constantly increasing. The document is a culmination of input from special interest groups, residents, municipalities, NRPA, staff, and elected officials. Its goal is to leverage partnerships and collaboration to provide a greater diversity of services to a greater number of constituents, whether parks, trails, recreation facilities, or programs.

Key Elements:

- The amenities most important to SLCO households include trails for walking, running, and biking; natural open space areas; unprogrammed lawn areas; children's playgrounds; group pavilion areas; and indoor swimming pools
- Available funding should be allocated toward maintenance of existing amenities, as well as development of new amenities
- 75% of survey respondents feel that park and recreation facilities make a community a better place to live
- Development standards outline which services should be provided, and at what frequency. These standards should be used as guidelines and adjusted based on specific circumstances.

Salt Lake County East West Recreational Trails Master Plan (2015)



Salt Lake County recognizes the importance of planning and developing regional trails in order to provide critical connections and recreation opportunities. This plan outlines opportunities between both developed and undeveloped Salt Lake County areas in order to tie together a coordinated system of east west trails across various jurisdictions and physical conditions. In addition to identifying connections between trails, the plan promotes connections to parks and open spaces, key destinations, and transit amenities.

Key Elements:

- This plan outlines several trail corridors which involve Cottonwood Heights. These corridors include:
 - Corridor C – Big Cottonwood Canyon to Magna & West Bench
 - Corridor D – Little Cottonwood Canyon to Copperton
 - Corridor E – Little Cottonwood Canyon to Midas Creek & Rose Canyon
- As trail corridor development in Cottonwood Heights continues, these alignments, as well as the preferred standards for trail materials, trailheads, wayfinding, lighting, site furnishings, and maintenance should be considered.

Cottonwood Heights Bicycle & Trails Master Plan (2016)



The Bicycle and Trails Master Plan proposes strategies to create a cohesive and functional network of trails and bicycle lanes throughout Cottonwood Heights. Despite a growing employment base, Cottonwood Heights is still largely a suburban commuter city which was built with a focus on convenient driving. The Bicycle and Trails Master Plan offers suggestions for retrofitting the auto centricity of the City to include active transportation infrastructure, as well as safe multi-modal transportation, human-scale activity, and recreation opportunities.

Key Elements:

- Promote healthy lifestyles through bicycle and pedestrian travel options
- Make bicycle and pedestrian travel a viable option with the City, and between Cottonwood Heights and its surrounding communities
- Promote Cottonwood Heights as an outdoor recreation destination
- Focus on bicycle lanes and trails as catalysts for economic development

Cottonwood Heights Fort Union Boulevard Master Plan (2017)



Fort Union Boulevard is a major corridor in Cottonwood Heights, serving as a gateway to the Big and Little Cottonwood Canyons, as well as providing connection to the rest of the Salt Lake Valley. The Fort Union Boulevard Master Plan provides a vision for the future development of this corridor, synchronized by residents, businesses, and officials, with the common goal of retrofitting this area as a "Main Street." This ambitious goal is also identified in the 2005 General Plan and requires several stages for implementation, the culmination of which will result in a revitalized, place-based Main Street corridor.

Key Elements:

- Prioritize multi-modal transportation through safe conditions for pedestrians and cyclists, including dedicated bike lanes
- Create a walkable environment which encourages pedestrian presence
- Encourage a mix of neighborhood destinations that patrons can walk or cycle to
- Improve street connectivity, pedestrian crossings, and trail connections
- Intersperse landscaping, pocket parks, linear parks, plazas, and other urban green space to add character and function to the area

Community Snapshot

The community snapshot provides an overview of important community parameters, including:

- Population
- Age Distribution
- Minority Populations
- Household Income
- People with a Disability

It is important to understand the percentage of people who may have limited access to open space within the community. Studying the map of population distribution by race, ethnicity, and income can inform a culturally sensitive ideation of recommendations. The following pages provide a summary of demographic information relative to the preparation of the Open Space Plan. It is also important to understand the percentage of people who are isolated within the community. Seniors and children are often more isolated than the general population realizes.

Having a greater understanding of the larger community helps ensure that the open space recommendations respond directly to the needs of the community.

Population

Current Population

The US Census bureaus has estimated the 2018 population of Cottonwood Heights and Salt Lake County as follows:

- Cottonwood Heights: 34,170
- Salt Lake County: 1,152,633

Population Projections

Wasatch Front Regional Council has used their traffic analysis zone method to produce a population projection for Cottonwood Heights City that takes into account an estimated number of developable acres for each zone. Although the projections start with a lower estimated population than the census data, it helps to demonstrate population growth trends to be considered for long-range planning. For instance, this model projects approximately 10,000 new residents by 2050, mostly in redeveloped gravel pit areas:

- Projected Population, 2020: 32,707
- Projected Population, 2030: 32,488
- Projected Population, 2040: 34,397
- Projected Population, 2050: 41,839



Public Engagement

The Open Space Master Plan was developed with the input and direction of Cottonwood Heights community members, committees, and commissions. Community involvement helped to establish the priorities used to create the goals and strategies recommended in this plan. Most residents felt that open space and the recreation opportunities it offers is a key priority to focus on in Cottonwood Heights and those who participated appreciated the opportunity to give feedback in the formation of this Plan. The forms of public outreach used in this plan were:

- Community surveys
- Open houses and public events
- Coordination with Parks, Trails, and Open Space Committee
- Public hearings with the Planning Commission and City Council

Open Houses & Public Events

Butlerville Days 2017

City staff set up a booth to take comments from the public at the 2017 Butlerville Days celebration. The following comments were made by residents on a map of the city:

- *All abilities park for kids*
- *Provide off leash dog areas*
- *Preserve green space and open trail heads and/or trail access*
- *Sidewalks on Wasatch*
- *Develop Bonneville Shoreline Trail*
- *Awesome park (Crestwood Park)*
- *Safety lights for students! Some kid is gonna die! (Bella Vista Elementary)*
- *Restore and preserve this land when the lease is up (Gravel Pit)*
- *Preserve this (Old Mill)*
- *Historic location (Old Mill)*
- *Please preserve! Make a trailhead! (Top of the World Dr.)*



- Leash free dog park along with park and ride. (Ferguson Overflow)
- Start to Focus on the connection between BCC and LCC via the BST.
- Buffer zone for homeowners, maybe parking for access to BST to be limited to the parking lots at the base of BCC and LCC. Maybe offer for the homeowners to purchase property directly behind their homes.
- Focus on the BST from BCC to LCC to start a proper bike program.
- Extend Bywater south (purchase land to the south) add off leash dog park in the city somewhere.
- Leash free dog park. (Cemetery)
- Bike park, running trail. (Cemetery)
- Continue trail thru the gravel pit development, connect the Bonneville Shoreline Trail.
- Large park and ride for both canyons. (Gravel Pit)
- Approach SL County to turn unbuilt part of Tavaci into trails/open space.
- Open space with connector to expand BST. No housing development in area above Wasatch. Redevelopment of gravel pit with mixed-use and mass transit access. TRAX connection, alleviation of ski traffic on Wasatch.
- Acquire and preserve Old Mill, don't let it crumble.
- Old Mill would be a good dog park.

October 2017 Open Space Survey

A survey was handed out to residents at the open house and given out to residents in the community throughout the month of October 2017. This survey received 138 responses.

2017 Open Space Survey Results



The City of Cottonwood Heights held an Open Space Open House in October 2017 to help get community feedback about what should be done with open space in the city. A survey was handed out at the Open House as well as given out to residents in the community and recieved **138** responses.

The City Should...

Take an active role in preserving open space. 94% Agree

Take an active role in preserving wildlife habitats and travel corridors. 88% Agree

Take and active role preserving natural appearance of foothills. 88% Agree

Take an active role in preserving wetlands, streams, and creeks. 88% Agree

Identify existing trails and protect them for future use. 86% Agree

Strive to preserve smaller lots and community green spaces. 72% Agree

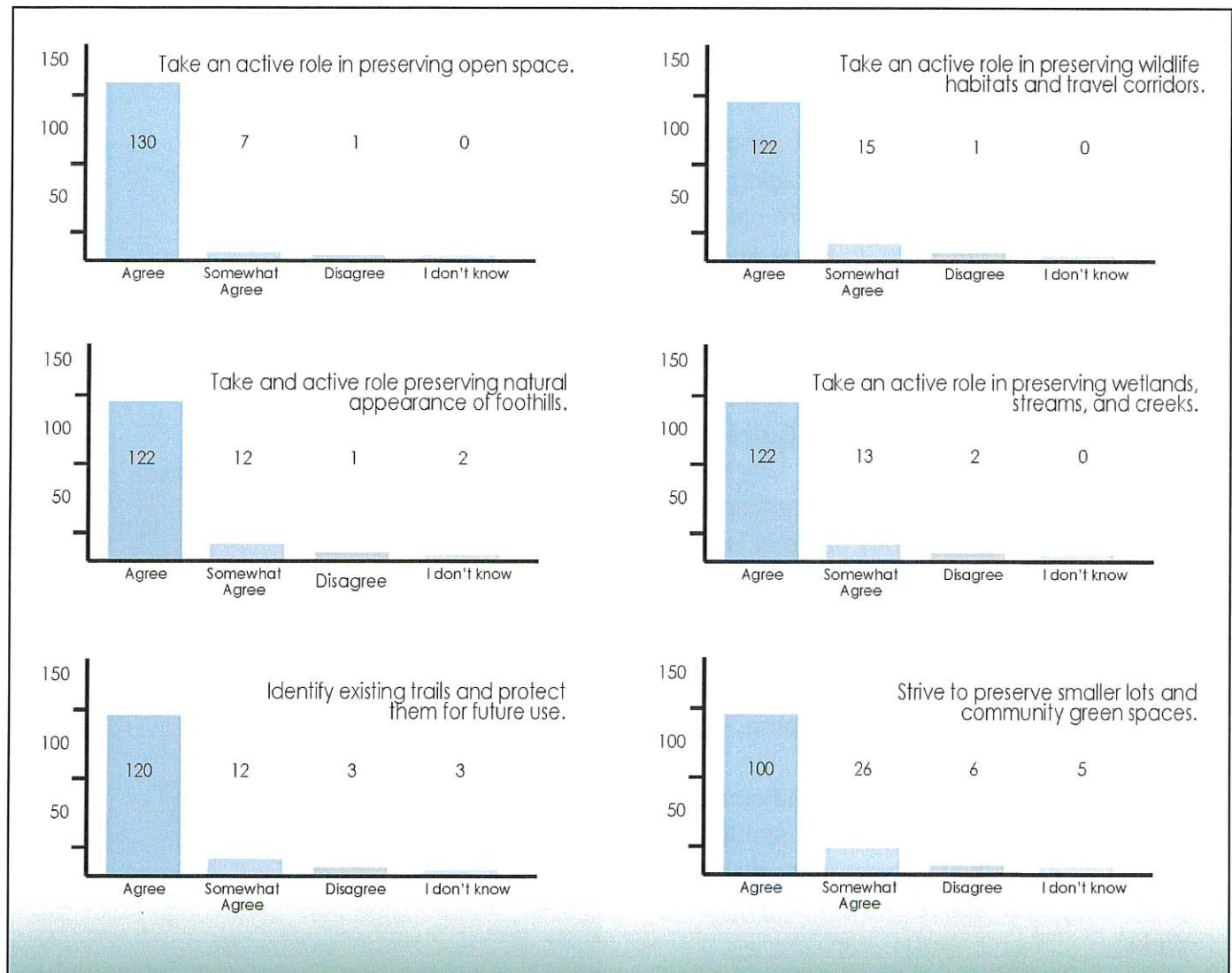
Strive to connect existing large open space parcels. 68% Agree



easiest and cheapest ways to do this is by installing dog friendly water fountains. Commercial prices for these fountains are between \$3,000-7,000.

- I would like to see shade sails for the playgrounds, especially at Golden Hills, Mill Hollow, and Mountview Park (too hot to use in summer) I would like to see outdoor exercise equipment at Parks, like Murray Park. Parents can exercise while kids play. Each park should have an off leash area.*

- What should be the City's priorities for new parks?
 - Mountain Bike Park similar to Corner Canyon- this could be on the cemetery land or gravel pit.*
 - I would also love to see an off-leash dog park, but I understand that's a big ask.*
 - Off-leash area for dogs would be a great improvement for the community.*
- If it was acquired, how should the City use natural open space?
 - Access to the foothills that does not encroach on private property rights.*



Recommendations

Vision

Preserve and Protect

Parks and Open Space

- Existing parks and recreation facilities are maintained, upgraded, and highly utilized.
- Natural lands, open spaces, features, vistas, and landmarks are protected throughout the City and in adjacent Federal, State, and County open space lands.
- Wildlife habitat is preserved and managed to appropriately support habitat connectivity and ecology and serves as a refuge for species impacted by urbanization while not jeopardizing people or property near it.
- The fire wildland-urban interface properly maintains the health and safety of people and property while protecting critical habitat and ecosystems.

Trails and Active Transportation

- Existing trails, trailheads, and the active transportation network are maintained, upgraded, and highly utilized.

Urban Forest

- The urban forest is maintained, upgraded, and valued as a public resource that contributes to the enjoyment of the urban and natural world.

Enhance and Connect

Parks and Open Space

- A high-quality open space network has been created. Equitable distribution and access to high quality parks and recreational facilities are found throughout the city. Parks and open space pedestrian service area gaps are filled with facilities matched to the area's needs. Regional open space and parks are considered as meeting part of the city-wide needs.
- Open space has been acquired for formal preservation and enjoyment by future generations.

- City-owned property and right-of-way enhances the natural beauty of the City.
- Unique neighborhood activity centers incorporate open space, public plazas, and other amenities act as strong pedestrian destinations and activity nodes that create additional interest and reasons for people to walk and utilize the active transportation and trail network throughout the City.
- Historic buildings and sites are incorporated into the open space network.
- Clean, clear, and dark skies are enjoyed and recognized as vital component to the City's open space network.
- Plan open space and the built environment together to allow both uses to enhance the other.

Trails and Active Transportation

- An established interconnected greenway network connects neighborhoods to city and regional parks, open spaces and activity areas through a seamless integration of sidewalks, active-transportation, off-road and natural trail facilities.
- The trail network accesses public lands for city resident and non-city users without interfering with the quality of life of nearby residents or infringing on private property rights.
- Wayfinding is found throughout the city that helps people navigate and enjoy the complete open space network by active means.
- A robust city- and canyon-wide public transit system relieves traffic generation and parking demand as well as expand the range and reach of trail and active transportation facility users to park and open space destinations. Parking management strategies compliment the support of transit and active transportation goals.
- An active transportation network that

Benefits

Economic Benefits

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) analyzed studies on the economic impacts of parks and found that “a premium of 8 percent to 10 percent on property values abutting or fronting a passive park in urban environments” was a conservative estimate of the economic benefits of parks. This impact was generally higher for properties closer to the parks and also higher for passive parks rather than active parks. Good park design and adequate buffers to adjacent neighbors were recommended as ways to prevent perceived negative impacts.

Research by the University of Washington found that “homes that are adjacent to naturalistic parks and open spaces are valued at 8-20% higher than comparable properties, with the positive price effect declining to near zero about ½ mile away.”

The NRPA also analyzed studies related to the economic impact of trails, finding that “a small positive premium of between 3 percent and 5 percent was the most widespread outcome for a single-family home located next to a trail.” As with parks, it’s important for future trails to be well-designed with adequate buffers to preserve the privacy of the adjacent neighborhoods.

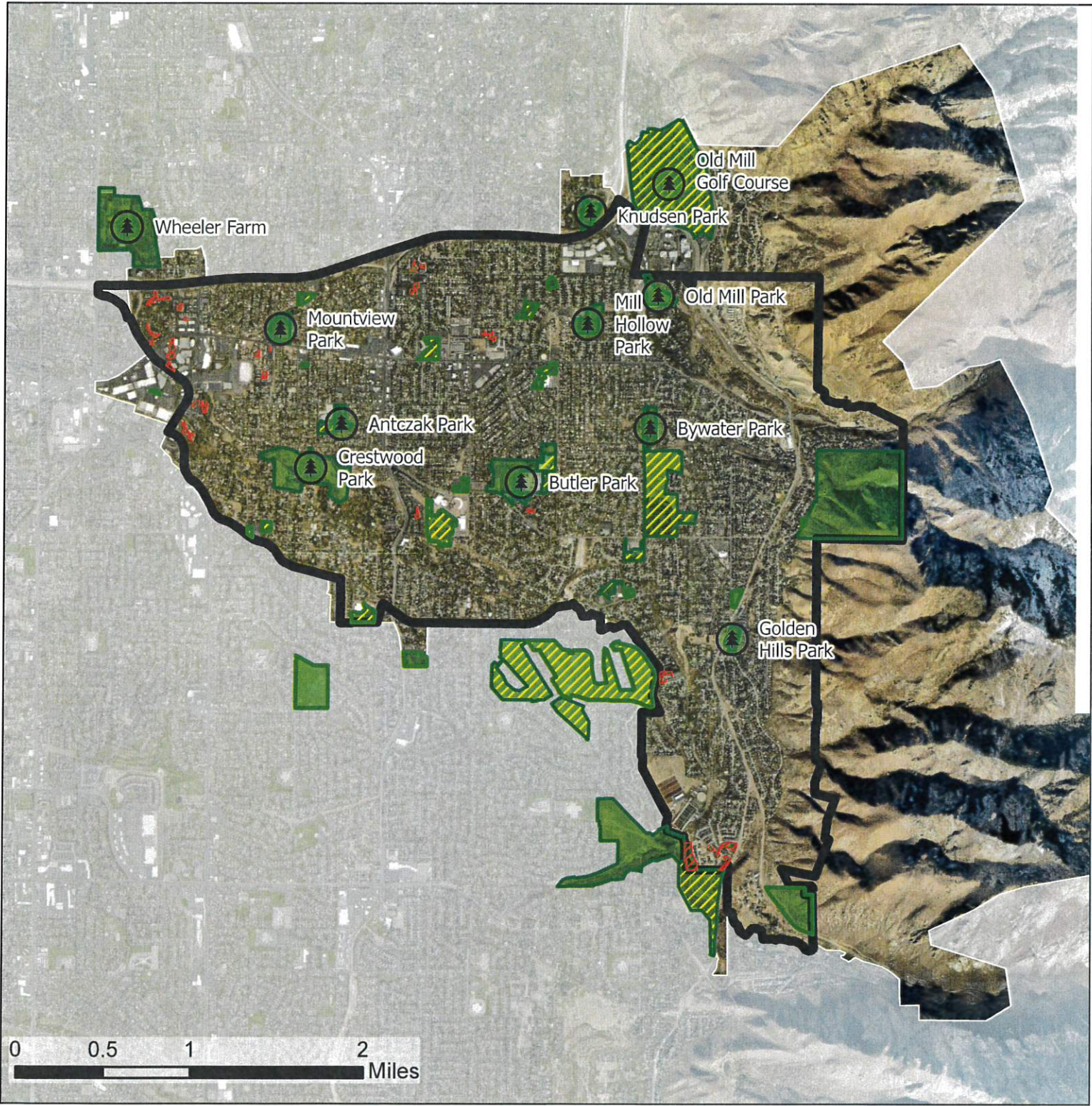
Health Benefits

Parks, trails, and open space contribute to the happy, healthy lifestyles of residents. Another analysis by the NRPA of scientific studies related to the health benefits of parks found that:






- Living close to parks and other recreation facilities is consistently related to higher physical activity levels for both adults and youth.
- Adolescents with easy access to multiple recreation facilities were more physically active and less likely to be overweight or obese than adolescents without access to such facilities.
- Increasing access to recreation facilities is an essential strategy for preventing childhood obesity.
- Organized park programs and supervision may increase the use of parks and playgrounds and may also increase physical activity, particularly among youths.
- Park renovations can increase vigorous physical activity among children and can also increase the use of certain types of facilities, including playgrounds and skate parks.



COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS EXISTING OPEN SPACE



- Map Legend -

	Existing Open Space Points	Existing Open Space Type, Status		City Boundary Planning Area
	Private, Existing			
	Public, Existing			
	Semi-Public, Existing			



Future Open Space

Based on feedback from residents and existing long-range plans, the Open Space Master Plan makes recommendations for potential new open space that could be developed, acquired, or otherwise preserved in the future. These are recommendations for future projects to be considered, not approvals of specific plans. The properties featured in the future open space map could become new parks, could incorporate new facilities or amenities in future developments, or could be passive open space preservation areas depending on what's most appropriate for the given area.

Fort Union Open Space

As the commercial areas along Fort Union Blvd. redevelop in the future, it is important to design the new developments in a way that incorporates pedestrian walkways, public plazas, and greenspace. There are opportunities for open space amenities at Park Centre, Highland Place, Hillside Plaza, and in the Whitmore Area. These future open space points on the map aren't intended to indicate that the commercial properties will be converted into parks and open space, but rather that new developments will provide open space amenities for the public.

Gravel Pit & Old Mill Open Space

Future development of the Wasatch Gravel Pit and Old Mill properties should include trailheads, plazas, parks, and other open space amenities as appropriate. Multiple open space points have been included in the plan for future amenities to be added throughout the Gravel Pit development.

Canyon Centre Park

A park at the new Canyon Centre development at the base of Big Cottonwood Canyon was approved as part of the original Canyon Centre master plan.

Porcupine Trail Open Space

The area west of the recently completed segment of the Big Cottonwood Canyon Trail that connects to the Fort Union Park and Ride (the "Porcupine Trail") has potential for future improvements to continue along Fort Union Boulevard as a greenbelt trail/walkway open space amenity.

City Hall Open Space

Options for additional open space amenities at City Hall could include benches, a pavilion, or an event space.

Ferguson Overflow Trailhead & Park

The existing Ferguson Canyon Trailhead attracts users from along the Wasatch Front, causing parking to frequently overflow into adjacent residential areas. The development of a new park and trailhead along Wasatch Boulevard has the potential to improve the walkability of the neighborhood, provide overflow parking for trail users, and preserve the existing open space along the corridor. City staff has identified this location as one of the top preferred sites for a future off-leash dog park.

Foothills Open Space Preservation

The foothills east of Wasatch Blvd. are considered the scenic backdrop of the city and should be preserved to the extent possible for wildlife habitat and recreation. Most residents ranked open space preservation as a high priority in the City surveys and open houses. Further discussion of open space acquisition criteria and funding strategies is included in the "Implementation" chapter of this plan.

Existing Trails

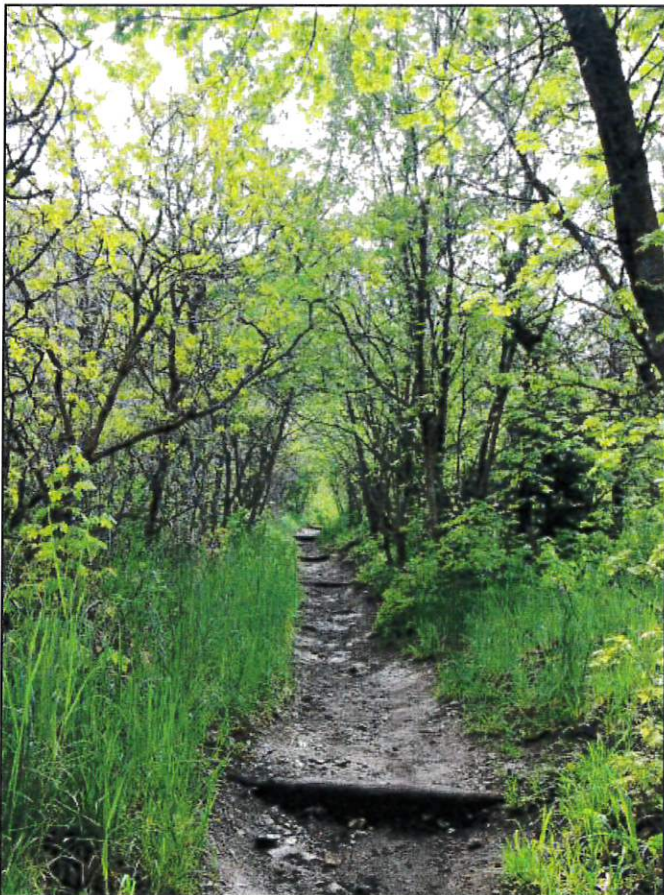
There are several existing formal trails in Cottonwood Heights. The existing trails map includes existing trailheads, urban trails, and natural trails.

The existing trail network includes:

- Big Cottonwood Canyon Trail
- Cottonwood Corporate Center Trail
- East Jordan Canal Trail
- Ferguson Canyon (Timberline) Trail

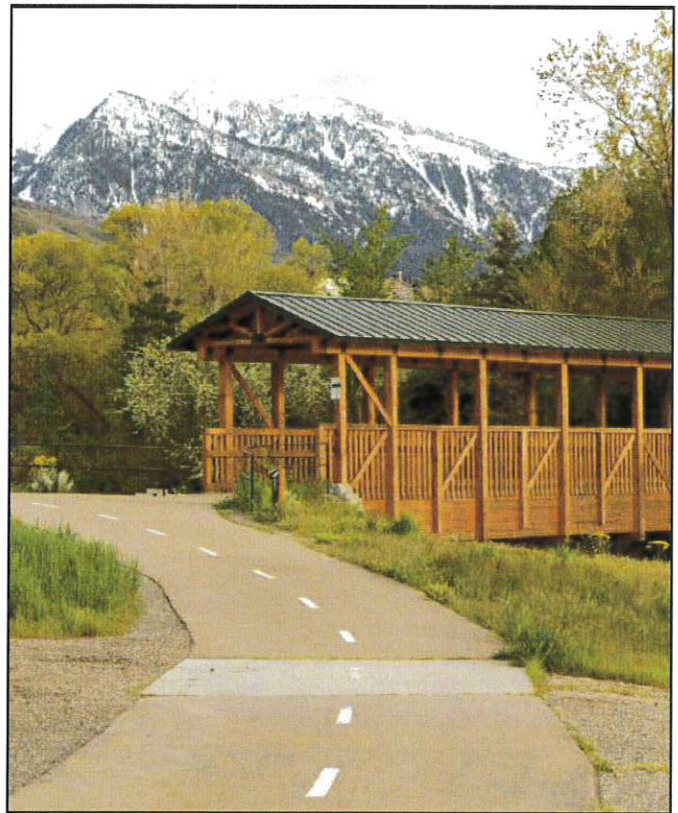
Natural Trails

Natural trails can be defined generally as an improved or unimproved path through a natural area designed for the enjoyment of scenic views, natural areas, and outdoor recreation.



Urban Trails

Urban trails include more formal walkways paved for use by walkers, families with strollers, cyclists, and people in wheelchairs. This category includes cycle tracks (At-grade protected bike lanes with barriers or raised, curb-separated bike lanes) and shared use pathways that are physically separate from roadways. This map also includes small neighborhood pedestrian connections to schools and parks as urban trails.



Future Trails

Cottonwood Heights Loop

This trail concept creates a long loop connecting several existing and proposed trails throughout the City with connections to several parks along the route. The proposed route would connect the following trails and parks:

- Big Cottonwood Canyon Trail
- Old Mill Park
- Cottonwood Heights Trail (I-215 Trail)
- East Jordan Canal Trail
- Mountview Park
- Union View Trail
- Crestwood Park
- Bengal Blvd. Bike Lanes
- City Hall
- Butler Park/Rec Center
- Bywater Park
- Fort Union Multi-Use Path

Fort Union Cycle Track

This plan seeks to reinforce the vision of the Fort Union Master Plan by recommending a multi-use path on each side of Fort Union along the entirety of the corridor, similar to what was proposed in the “Community District” section of the original plan. Due to the high speeds along Fort Union and the presence of large power lines, a separated cycle track is recommended to provide connectivity in a safe way that is accessible to users of all comfort levels.

Cottonwood Heights Trail (I-215 Trail)

A recently completed segment of Parley’s Trail in along I-80 demonstrates that trails along freeway right-of-way can be an effective way to serve the needs of nearby residents. This plan envisions a trail similar to the Parley’s Trail along I-215 connecting the Big Cottonwood Canyon Trail to the Union Park Interchange.

Enchanted Valley Trail

There is potential for a future trailhead and social trail near the Racquet Club Condos through the Brighton Point, Apple Valley, and Enchanted Hills subdivisions connecting to Bywater Park and possibly through the Memorial Estates cemetery to Bengal Boulevard. As with the other proposed trails in this master plan, this proposal is mostly along privately owned property and will require additional planning efforts and public outreach in the future.

Wasatch Boulevard Trail

The Wasatch Boulevard Area Master Plan, adopted by the City in 2019, envisioned a shared use pathway along the full length of the corridor. The plan made the following recommendations:

- Link disconnected neighborhoods together through shared use pathways and trails along Wasatch Boulevard.
- Reduce the barrier of Wasatch Boulevard with improved pedestrian and bicycle crossings.
- Enhance visibility of pedestrians and cyclists at crosswalks at major intersections.
- Create a network of paths and crossings along the corridor will make short trips easier to take on foot and bike and improve transit access.



Private Property Rights Acknowledgement

Cottonwood Heights respects private property rights. In the State of Utah, a government may not use eminent domain for park, trail, and open space development, and that is not identified as an implementation strategy in the plan. As such, any plan elements represented on private land would only be realized through voluntary agreements between landowners and local government, or through requirements made during substantial future development projects.

The plan envisions trail development that is of mutual benefit to trail users, adjacent landowners, easement holders and residents. Trail access will only be acquired in a manner that respects the rights of property owners and individual perspectives on the best use of land.

This plan is not a detailed plan of trail alignments, nor is it an acquisition or construction plan. More detailed site-specific planning, analysis, design and public input must occur after a general plan amendment has been approved, as appropriate.

Trails Through Adjacent Jurisdictions

This plan envisions an established interconnected greenway network that connects neighborhoods to city and regional parks, open spaces and activity areas. Several of the urban and natural trails proposed in this plan show connections into and through adjacent jurisdictions, including Holladay, Murray, Midvale, Sandy, and unincorporated Salt Lake County areas. These connections are included for illustrative purposes only. Any future trail connection that affects an adjacent jurisdiction will require additional planning and coordination with the affected entity.



Planning Areas

Planning areas have been included in this master plan to help analyze the open space needs of each neighborhood and connections between neighborhoods in the city. Planning areas boundaries were determined on physical criteria.

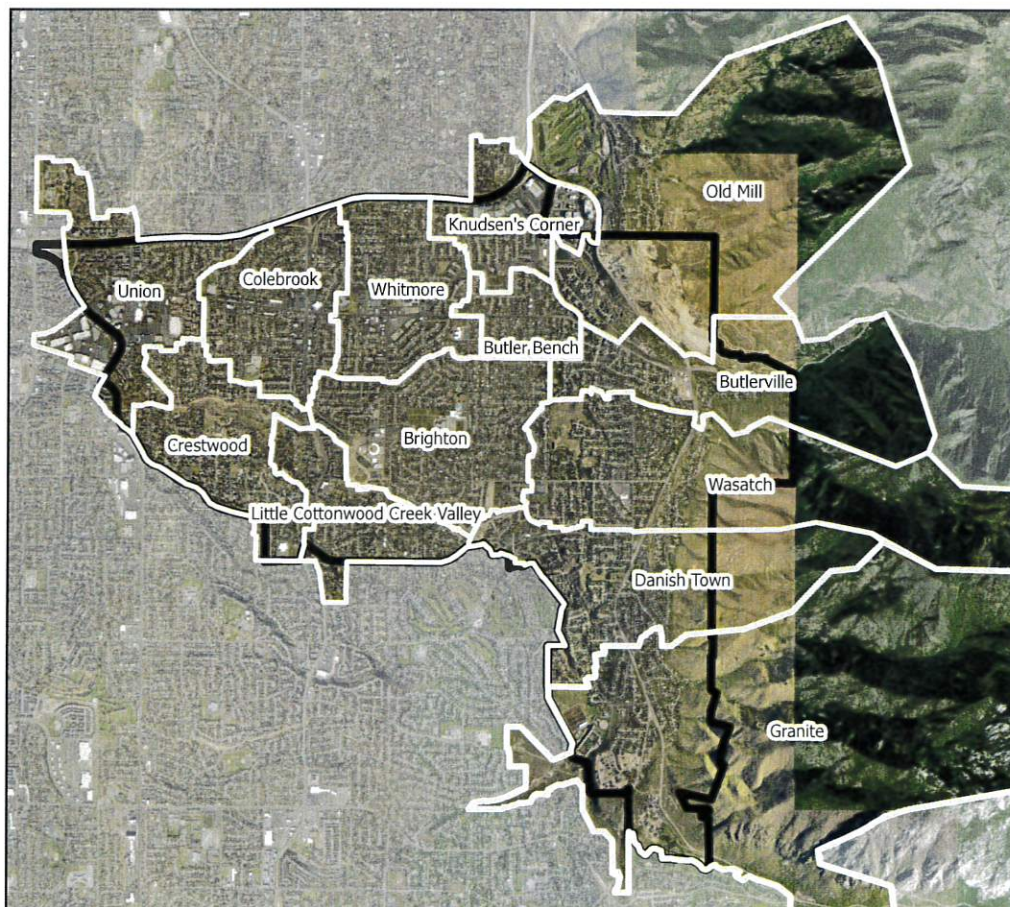
- Activity Centers were identified. These represent areas and locations that people will frequent on a regular basis. Activity areas are divided into three classifications on a subjective level of use.
- Open space and recreation centers were identified.
- The pedestrian and cycling network was thoroughly mapped.

These three main components help identify where people are likely to go to enjoy open space, whether in the classical sense of parks

and recreation, or possibly as part of daily life activity, such as attending school, a job, or shopping.

The goal is to link these activity areas together to form the basis and backbone for a robust open space network of places, activities and paths. Examining these elements at a regional, city-wide, and neighborhood planning area scale allow the identification of gaps and needs in the system.

Planning areas also look beyond the borders beyond other planning areas, but also the city. This plan is not intended to impose goals or a vision on adjacent jurisdictions, but rather to explore options that may be mutually beneficial and help enhance the quality of life of our neighbors, as well as take advantage of nearby resources outside the city. Therefore, planning area boundaries do not always coincide with city boundaries.





- Map Legend -

Urban Trails	Natural Trails	Existing Open Space
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing Trailhead Points Existing Open Space Points Planned Trailhead Points Planned Open Space Points 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing Proposed Potential Existing Proposed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Private, Existing Private, Proposed Public, Existing Semi-Public, Existing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City Boundary 		

0 0.2 0.4 0.6 Miles





- Map Legend -

- Existing Trailhead Points
- Existing Open Space Points
- Planned Trailhead Points
- Planned Open Space Points

Urban Trails Natural Trails Existing Open Space

- Existing
- Proposed
- Potential
- Existing
- Proposed
- Private, Existing
- Private, Proposed
- Public, Existing
- Semi-Public, Existing
- Planning areas
- City Boundary

0 0.2 0.4 0.6 Miles





- Map Legend -

- Existing Trailhead Points
- Existing Open Space Points
- Planned Trailhead Points
- Planned Open Space Points

Urban Trails Natural Trails Existing Open Space

- Existing
- Proposed
- Potential
- Existing
- Proposed
- Private, Existing
- Private, Proposed
- Public, Existing
- Semi-Public, Existing
- Planning areas
- City Boundary





- Map Legend -

Urban Trails	Natural Trails	Existing Open Space
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing Trailhead Points Existing Open Space Points Planned Trailhead Points Planned Open Space Points 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing Proposed Potential Existing Proposed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Private, Existing Private, Proposed Public, Existing Semi-Public, Existing Planning areas City Boundary





- Map Legend -

	Urban Trails	Natural Trails	Existing Open Space
Existing Trailhead Points	Existing	Existing	Private, Existing
Existing Open Space Points	Proposed	Proposed	Private, Proposed
Planned Trailhead Points	Potential		Public, Existing
Planned Open Space Points			Semi-Public, Existing
			Planning areas
			City Boundary

0 0.2 0.4 0.6 Miles





- Map Legend -

Existing Trailhead Points	Urban Trails	Natural Trails	Existing Open Space
	Existing	Existing	Private, Existing
	Proposed	Proposed	Private, Proposed
	Potential		Public, Existing
			Semi-Public, Existing
			Planning areas
			City Boundary

0 0.2 0.4 0.6
Miles



Implementation

Open Space Acquisition

Open Space Acquisition Criteria

The acquisition process for open space is one of the most important aspects of the planning process. Choosing the criteria and method the city uses to purchase open space lands and guide developers in setting aside critical open space helps to ensure that the city spends money wisely and in a manner that citizens would prefer. The criteria set forth in this chapter are intended to solidify the direction citizens have given through this planning process.

Identifying and prioritizing open space criteria is a key step in the open space planning process. Citizens, the City Council, the Planning Commission and City staff will work together to prioritize which open space parcels are appropriate for purchase or preservation.

The maps included in this plan identify desirable opportunities for future open spaces and trails. The information included in these maps is intended to help direct the City Council, Planning Commission and staff to areas that may contain attributes worth preserving; these maps are not designed to show specific properties for preservation or final alignments for future trails. Each potential open space site or trail will need to be evaluated and studied on a site specific level.

Each new potential open space or trail should be individually evaluated to assess the project's overall value to the open space system. Staff should consider the following key factors when prioritizing specific projects:

- 1) Site Context
 - a. To what extent is the property located near other protected lands or identified open space areas?
 - b. Does this property contribute to a greenway or larger open space area?
 - c. Is protecting this property a strategic move to protect a larger area?
 - d. Should preservation of this property be a priority due an imminent purchase or development?
 - e. How compatible is the proposed open space and/or recreational uses of this parcel with the adjacent land uses?
 - f. Is the project included in any County or regional master plans?
- 2) Scenic/Aesthetic/Sense of Place
 - a. Does the property provide vistas or scenic views of Wasatch Mountains, the Salt Lake Valley, surrounding bluffs, or other features that contribute to the sense of place that is Cottonwood Heights?
 - b. Will the acquisition preserve important views from roads, natural trails, or other prominent public locations?
 - c. To what extent will the property enhance the quality of life for City residents and visitors?
 - d. Does the property serve as a community buffer or separator?
 - e. Does the property help maintain a sense of agricultural tradition and rural character?
- 3) Outdoor Recreation/Public Use
 - a. What is the potential for public use and outdoor recreation on this property?
 - b. To what extent does this property provide opportunity to integrate public use into a larger recreation network?

Funding Strategies

The following options are available to Cottonwood Heights for the implementation of the plan recommendations:

City General Fund

The city's general fund is the primary financial source for general government operations. The major sources for this fund are property taxes, sales taxes, energy taxes, and other fees. Each city department makes expenditures based on the city budget approved each year by the City Council. The City Council may propose funding in future budgets for parks, trails, and open space projects that achieve the goals of this plan.

Impact Fees

The city should explore the possibility of adopting a parks impact fee for new development and redevelopment. Impact fees can help offset the impacts of new development as the city grows.

Bonds

Bonds can be used by the city to finance public open space projects. General obligation bonds are secured by and repaid from property taxes and must be approved by a majority of voters in a bond election. A bond election allows Cottonwood Heights voters to approve a loan on property tax increases, which can be a good revenue source for projects with a broad appeal to the public, but may not be appropriate if a project is viewed by constituents as non-essential.

Grants & Programs

Various Federal, State, County, and other grants are available for the development and maintenance of open space, parks, trails, tree placement and urban fisheries, including:

- County ZAP Tax
- Transportation & Land Use Connection (TLC)
- Central Wasatch Commission (CWC)
- Healthy Salt Lake
- Community Development Block Grants
- Utah Office of Outdoor Recreation Grants
- County Tourism, Recreation, Culture & Convention (TRCC) Grants
- Federal Recreational Trails Program (RTP)
- National Park Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) Program
- Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)
- UDOT Surface Transportation Program (STP)

Private Donations

Private donations through fundraising, adopt-a-park or adopt-a-trail programs, corporate partnerships, and local volunteer efforts could be used to support open space projects. The city could consider a program to allow individuals to make "micro donations" to cover the cost of specific park amenities like benches.

Development & Redevelopment

The dedication of land for parks, trails, and active transportation improvements can be required by the city during the development process, as required by the city code. Easements for future trails can be required on private property in developed areas as redevelopment occurs on individual parcels.